

# ParentCorps: A Community-Based Approach to Promoting Academic and Social Success and Preventing Conduct Problems

Laurie S. Miller, Esther J. Calzada, Melissa B. Caldwell  
NYU Child Study Center



Funded by:

U.S. Department of Education  
Chase Manhattan Bank, Inc.  
Jon and Joanne Corzine  
Private Donors



▶ **PARENT CORPS** ▶

# "Early Onset" Pathway to Conduct Disorder

## PRESCHOOL

Conduct Problems  
Oppositional Defiant Disorder  
Minor Symptoms of Conduct Disorder



## CHILDHOOD

Aggressive & NonAggressive  
Symptoms of Conduct Disorder



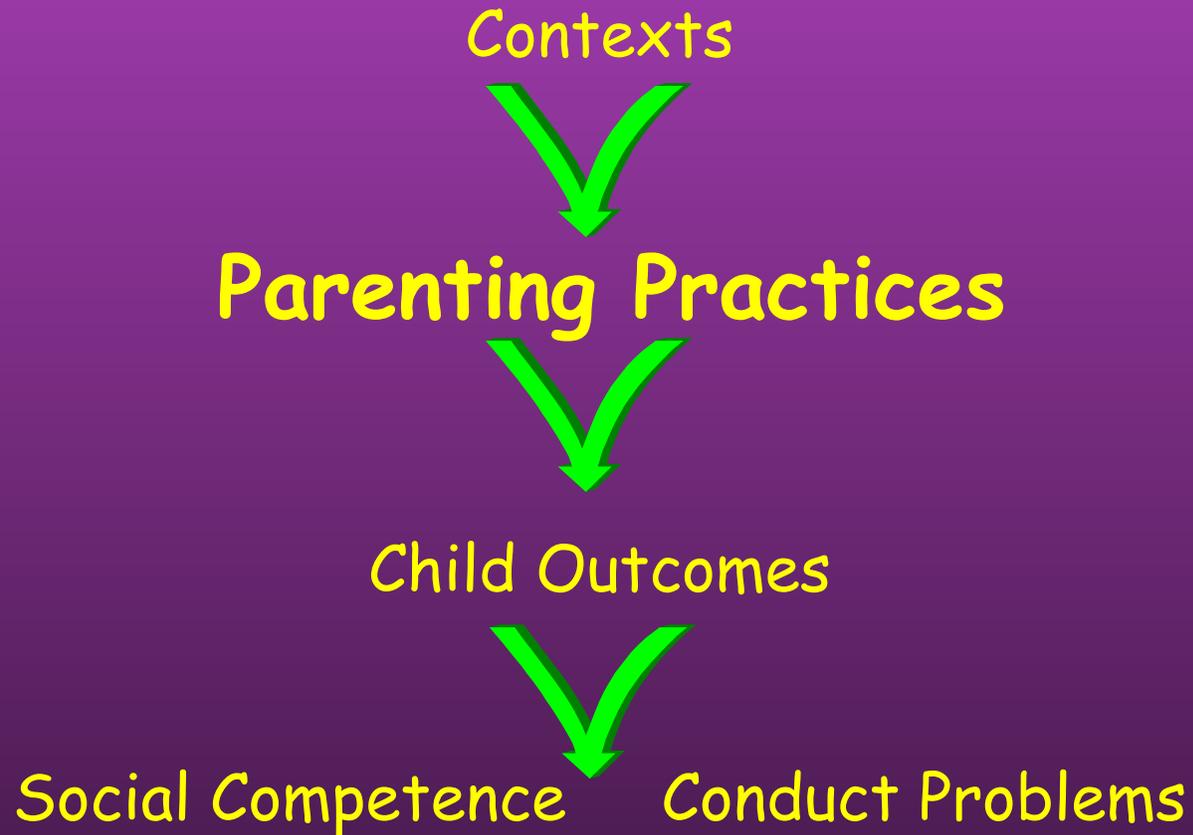
## ADOLESCENCE

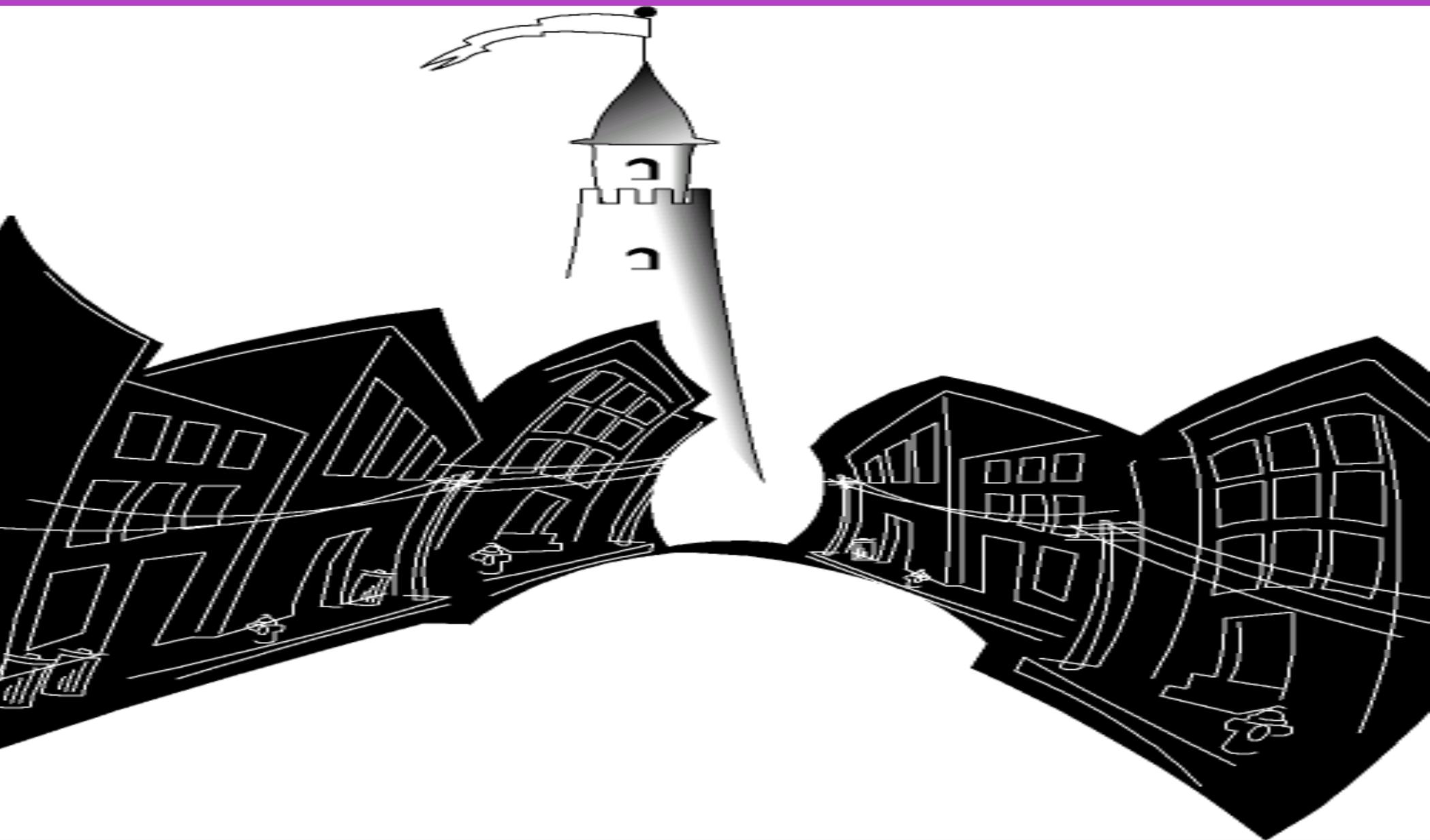
Delinquency & Violence  
Serious Symptoms of Conduct Disorder

# Negative Adolescent Outcomes of Preschool Conduct Problems

- Delinquency
- Substance Abuse
- Depression
- Peer Rejection
- Academic Underachievement
- School Dropout

# A Social Interaction Learning Model







▶ **PARENT CORPS** ▶

# ParentCorps Goals

For all families of preschoolers living in one community:

- strengthen parenting practices
- promote children's social and academic competence
- prevent conduct problems

# Components of Intervention

- Parenting Groups
- Children's Groups
- Guided Parent-Child Interaction
- Home Visits
- Referral and Linkage (as needed)

# Reducing Barriers

- Engagement
- Participation
- Satisfaction

# Implementation Feedback Process

Develop Collaborative Partnership

Adapt for Contexts & Culture

Train Interventionists

Evaluate Fidelity & Implementation

Conduct Randomized Experiments

Make Sustainable

Adapted from M. Forgatch (2001).

# Collaborative Partnerships

Harlem, NYC

- Rheedlen Centers for Children and Families
- Community Advisory Board
- P.S. 207
- Parent REPs
- Parent Participants

# Adapt for Culture and Context to Reduce Barriers

- Program marketing
- Program delivery
- Program materials

# Parent REPs

Parents from the targeted community  
to serve as:

- Resource
- Educator
- Partner

# Parent REP Training

- Scientific basis and program rationale
- Child development
- Parenting practices
- In-home service delivery
- Paraprofessional role
- Ongoing evaluation

# Responsibilities of Parent REPs

Represent ParentCorps

Market ParentCorps

Recruit Parents

Co-lead Parenting Groups

Co-lead Children's Groups

Co-lead Home Visits

Advocate & Support Parents

Identify Resources

Facilitate Referrals

Assist with Assessment

# ParentCorps Materials for Families

- ParentCorps Press
  - Newsletter for Parents by Parents
- Program Brochures
- Home Assignments and Handouts
- Parenting Workbook
- Resource Guide
- ParentCorps Video

# Program Evaluation

- Study 1: Open Trial (n=16)
- Study 2: Open Trial (n=19)
- Study 3: Controlled Pilot Study
- Study 4: Large-Scale Effectiveness Trial